

CLAIMS

1. A seamless tubular polyimide film, comprising polyimide having at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid components having a mixture of 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and 85 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and at least one aromatic diamine component, the seamless tubular polyimide film having a yield stress (σ_y) of at least 120 MPa and 10 having a tensile strength to yield stress stress ratio (σ_{cr}/σ_y) of at least 1.10.
2. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film, wherein 15 carbon black is dispersed in polyimide having at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid components having a mixture of 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and 85 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and at least one aromatic 20 diamine component, the semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film having a surface resistivity of 10^3 to 10^{15} $\Omega/\text{sq.}$
3. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film 25 according to Claim 2, wherein a log standard deviation of surface resistivity is 0.2 or smaller, a log standard deviation of volume resistivity is 0.2 or smaller, and 30 a difference between a log surface resistivity and a log volume resistivity is 0.4 or smaller.
4. A method for producing a seamless tubular polyimide film, comprising:
35 rotationally molding a mixed solution substantially in

a monomeric state having a mixture of an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component comprising 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid and/or ester thereof and 85 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid and/or ester thereof and an approximately equimolar amount of an aromatic diamine component, to form a tubular shape, and
5 imidizing the tubular material by heating.

5. A method for producing a semi-conductive seamless tubular
10 polyimide film, comprising:

mixing an aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component comprising 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid and/or ester thereof and 85 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid and/or ester
15 thereof and an approximately equimolar amount of an aromatic diamine component, to form mixed solution substantially in a monomeric state,

dispersing 1 to 35 parts by weight of carbon black in
the mixed solution, per 100 parts by weight of a total amount
20 of the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and the
aromatic diamine component, to form a semi-conductive monomer
mixed solution,

rotationally molding the semi-conductive monomer mixed
solution to form a tubular shape; and

25 imidizing the tubular material by heating.

6. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film for use
in an intermediate transfer belt in an electrophotographic
system produced by a production method of Claim 5.

30 7. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
comprising:

an aromatic amic acid oligomer obtained by
polycondensation of at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic
acid derivatives and an approximately equimolar amount of at
35 least one aromatic diamine;

carbon black; and
an organic polar solvent.

8. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
5 according to Claim 7, wherein the aromatic amic acid oligomer
is obtained by polycondensation of at least two aromatic
tetracarboxylic dianhydrides and an approximately equimolar
amount of said at least one aromatic diamine in an organic
polar solvent at about 80°C or lower.

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9. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
according to Claim 8, wherein said at least two aromatic
tetracarboxylic dianhydrides are 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric
15 aromatic tetracarboxylic dianhydride and 85 to 45 mol% of
symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic dianhydride.

10. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
according to Claim 7, wherein the aromatic amic acid oligomer
is obtained by polycondensation of at least two aromatic
20 tetracarboxylic acid diesters and an approximately equimolar
amount of said at least one aromatic diamine in an organic
polar solvent at about 90 to about 120°C.

11. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
25 according to Claim 10, wherein said at least two aromatic
tetracarboxylic acid diesters are 15 to 55 mol% of asymmetric
aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester and 85 to 45 mol% of
symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester.

30 12. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition
according to Claim 7, wherein a number average molecular
weight of the aromatic amic acid oligomer is about 1000 to
about 7000.

35 13. A semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition

according to Claim 7, wherein carbon black is present in an amount of about 3 to about 30 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of a total amount of aromatic tetracarboxylic acid component and organic diamine.

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14. A method for producing a semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film, comprising:

rotationally molding a semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition according to Claim 7; followed by heating.

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15. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film for use in an intermediate transfer belt in an electrophotographic system produced by a production method according to Claim 14.

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16. A method for producing a semi-conductive aromatic amic acid composition comprising:

subjecting at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid derivatives and an approximately equimolar amount of at least one aromatic diamine to partial condensation polymerization in an organic polar solvent, thereby yielding an aromatic amic acid oligomer solution; and

uniformly mixing electrically conductive carbon black powder with the oligomer solution.

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17. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition, wherein carbon black is uniformly dispersed in a mixed solution prepared by mixing a high-molecular-weight polyimide precursor solution or high-molecular-weight polyamideimide solution in a nylon salt monomer solution in which at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diesters and an approximately equimolar amount of at least one aromatic diamine are dissolved in an organic polar solvent.

35 18. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition

according to Claim 17, wherein said at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diesters are 10 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester and 90 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester.

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19. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition according to Claim 17, wherein said at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diesters are 10 to 55 mol% of asymmetric 2,3,3',4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid diester and 90 to 45 mol% of symmetric 3,3',4,4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid diester.

20. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition according to Claim 17, wherein the high-molecular-weight polyimide precursor solution is a polyamic acid solution whose number average molecular weight is 10000 or larger and the high-molecular-weight polyamideimide solution is a polyamideimide solution whose number average molecular weight is 10000 or larger.

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21. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition according to Claim 20, wherein the polyamic acid solution whose number average molecular weight is 10000 or larger is produced by reaction of diaminodiphenyl ether and an approximately equimolar amount of biphenyltetracarboxylic dianhydride in an organic polar solvent.

22. A semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition according to Claim 20, wherein the polyamideimide solution whose number average molecular weight is 10000 or larger is produced by reaction of acid anhydride comprising trimellitic acid anhydride and benzophenone tetracarboxylic dianhydride and an approximately equimolar amount of aromatic isocyanate in an organic polar solvent.

23. A method for producing a semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film, comprising:

rotationally molding a semi-conductive polyimide-based precursor composition according to Claim 17, to form a
5 tubular shape; and

imidizing the tubular material by heating.

24. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide-based film for use in an intermediate transfer belt in an
10 electrophotographic system produced by a production method according to Claim 23, whose surface resistivity is 10^7 to 10^{14} $\Omega/\text{sq.}$

25. A method for producing a semi-conductive polyimide-based
15 precursor composition, comprising:

mixing a high-molecular-weight polyimide precursor solution or high-molecular-weight polyamideimide solution in a nylon salt monomer solution in which at least two aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diesters and an approximately equimolar
20 amount of at least one aromatic diamine are dissolved in an organic polar solvent to prepare a mixed solution, and
uniformly dispersing carbon black in the mixed solution.

26. A method for producing a high-concentration semi-
25 conductive polyimide precursor composition, comprising:

uniformly dispersing carbon black in an organic polar solvent to give a carbon black dispersion and
dissolving aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester and an approximately equimolar amount of aromatic diamine in the
30 carbon black dispersion.

27. A method for producing a high-concentration semi-conductive polyimide precursor composition according to Claim 26, wherein the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester ~~is~~ a
35 mixture of 10 to 55 mol% of asymmetric aromatic

tetracarboxylic acid diester and 90 to 45 mol% of symmetric aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester.

28. A method for producing a high-concentration semi-conductive polyimide precursor composition according to Claim 5 26, wherein the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid diester is a mixture of 10 to 55 mol% of asymmetric 2,3,3',4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid diester and 90 to 45 mol% of symmetric 3,3',4,4'-biphenyl tetracarboxylic acid diester.

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29. A method for producing a high-concentration semi-conductive polyimide precursor composition according to Claim 26, wherein carbon black is present in an amount of 5 to 35 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of a total amount of 15 the aromatic tetracarboxylic acid and the aromatic diamine.

30. A high-concentration semi-conductive polyimide precursor composition produced by a production method of Claim 26.

20 31. A method for producing a semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film, comprising:

rotationally molding a high-concentration semi-conductive polyimide precursor composition according to Claim 30, to form a tubular shape; and

25 imidizing the tubular material by heating.

32. A semi-conductive seamless tubular polyimide film for use in an intermediate transfer belt in an electrophotographic system produced by a method according to 30 Claim 31, whose surface resistivity is 10^7 to 10^{14} $\Omega/\text{sq.}$